

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: January 29, 2003

CROP MOISTURE INDEX

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Climate Prediction Centers (CPC) and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Joint Agricultural Weather Facility (JAWF) produces the Crop Moisture Index chart. The index indicates short term conditions.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

The index is intended for short term planning.

3. Audience:

The audience is primarily agricultural and water supply managers.

4. Presentation Format:

JAWF presents the outlooks in red book graphic over AWIPS. Graphics are also posted on the CPC web site.

5. Feedback Method:

E-mail both Robert.Leffler@noaa.gov and Barbara.Mayes@noaa.gov.

Part 2 - Technical

1. Format and Science Basis:

The index depicts short-term (up to 4 weeks) abnormal dryness or wetness affecting agriculture. This index responds rapidly, can change considerably from week to week, and indicates normal conditions at the beginning and end of the growing season. JAWF assigns numerical index values for each NCDC climate division.

JAWF assigns numerical index values for each National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) climate division.

JAWF uses 7 categories:	
Index range	Condition for NCDC climate divisional area
-3.0 or below	severely dry
-2.0 to -2.9	excessively dry
-2.0 to -2.9	moderate drought
-0.9 to +0.9	slightly dry or favorably moist
+1.0 to +1.9	abnormally moist
+2.0 to +2.9	wet
+3.0 or above	excessively wet

The latest Crop Moisture is at

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/regional_monitoring/cmi.gif.

2. Availability:

JAWF issues this product each Monday at around 12:00 noon Eastern local time. JAWF does not issue updates. They will issue corrections as needed. They are issued on NWS dissemination systems under the following product IDs:

WMO HEADING - PYWS47 KWBC AWIPS ID - RBGKB

They are also issued on the CPC web site at the URL listed in section a.

3. Additional Information:

- Valid Time: This product is valid for one week after issuance.
- Product Expiration Time: This product expires with the next issuance
- Creation Software: JAWF uses in-house National Center of Atmospheric Research (NCAR) graphics.